MANUAL

OF THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

OCTOBER, 1885.

MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

DIRECTORY.

PROPER CORPORATE NAME: "THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH."

OFFICE: MISSION ROOMS, No. 805 BROADWAY, NEW YORK CITY.

CHARTER, ACTS OF INCORPORATION, ETC.—See last Annual Report.

THE GENERAL COMMITTEE meets in November each year in the Mission Rooms, No. 805 Broadway, New York.

THE BOARD OF MANAGERS meets on the third Tuesday of each month in the Mission Rooms.

THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES, *Rev. J. M. Reid, D.D.*, and *Rev. C. C. McCabe, D.D.*, have charge of all the correspondence of the Society. All communications should be addressed to them at the Mission Rooms, 805 Broadway, New York.

THE RECORDING SECRETARY, *Rev. J. N. FitzGerald, D.D.*, has charge of all the records of Committees, of the Board, and of the Society. He also certifies to the Treasurer, or to the Auditing Committee, as the case may require, all moneys granted or expenditures authorized in pursuance of the action of the Board.

THE TREASURER, *J. M. Phillips, Esq.*, has charge of all the funds of the Society, as his title indicates. All remittances should be made to his order by draft on New York or Post-office Order on New York, and should be inclosed to the Corresponding Secretaries as above directed.

THE ASSISTANT TREASURER, *Rev. Earl Cranston, D.D.*, resides at Cincinnati, O., and acts for the Treasurer in that part of the country.

IN MAKING BEQUESTS the following form should be observed:

I give and bequeath to the "MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH," incorporated by the Legislature of the State of New York, the sum of .....; and the receipt of the Treasurer thereof shall be a sufficient discharge to my Executors for the same.

IN DEVISES OF LAND observe the following:

I give and devise to the "MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH," incorporated by the Legislature of the State of New York, the following lands and premises:

.....

.....

to have and to hold the same, with the appurtenances thereto, to the said Society, its successors and assigns forever.

It is particularly requested that all persons making Bequests and Devises to this Society, or knowing that they have been made, should notify the Corresponding Secretaries of the same at the Mission Rooms, and, if practicable, to inclose a copy of the will, that the wishes of the testator may be known and our rights protected.

MISSIONARY LITERATURE in the shape of tracts, leaflets, concert exercises, and letters to children should be ordered from this office, also supplies for collecting purposes.

ONE MILLION FOR MISSIONS FOR 1885.

WHAT is the prospect? Let us figure up a little and peer into the future as far as we can. Our object is to secure One Million Dollars for Missions in the calendar year 1885. We submit the following

STATEMENT.

Cash received from January 1 to August 1, 1885.....	$415,730 45
The Fall Conferences raised last year (*and certainly no charge, or district, or Conference will fall behind last year at such a time as this*).....	300,000 00
John M. Phillips, Treasurer of the Missionary Society, has in his hands easily-convertible securities which he has received from estates this year.....	40,000 00
We have received unconditional pledges of increase from presiding elders and pastors, amounting to.....	50,000 00
Pledges have been made on what we call "The Last End $100,000," amounting to.....	12,700 00
Rev. John F. Goucher, of Baltimore, is supporting many schools in Japan, China, and India, for the benefit of which he will place in our treasury this year.....	13,000 00
Total in sight.....	$831,430 45
NEEDED YET TO BRING THE TOTAL FOR 1885 UP TO A MILLION DOLLARS.....	168,569 55
	$1,000,000 00

Now, if the Fall Conferences should all come up to the Million-dollar line we would have $100,000 more to add to this sum, and the balance of $68,569 55 would be all we should lack of our million.

You observe, however, in this statement, that we are counting certainly only upon those who have unconditionally promised to succeed in raising their Million-dollar apportionment.

And why may not all succeed?

We must not wait to see whether *every* pastor and *every* presiding elder and *every* Sunday-school superintendent will respond favorably to this appeal.

We who believe that One Million for Missions *ought* to be raised annually, and *can* be raised this year as a beginning, must ceaselessly work on until midnight of December 31, 1885.

What comes into the treasury between November 1, 1885,

and January 1, 1866, will count in the next fiscal year of the Society, but it will also count in the calendar year 1885.

Our aim now is to signalize the first year of the second century of organic American Methodism by laying on God's altar One Million Dollars for the conquest of the world. It will be a new era in the history of Methodism. It will put courage into the hearts of her leaders. It will enable us to re-enforce and greatly strengthen our old missions. It will enable us to plant new ones. It will enable us to measure up more fully to the tremendous work that must be done upon our Western frontiers and in the South.

Do not criticise! Do not fear reaction! Do not say any thing about spasmodic giving. Let a wave of holy enthusiasm sweep through the host of God. Let twelve thousand pulpits portray in burning words the mighty work already accomplished. Tell the Church we have four thousand five hundred laborers in the field now, and we want to add a thousand to this number.

After the Missionary sermon is preached, full of history, fact, and statement, and, above all, of the Holy Ghost, let there be a thorough, patient canvass to find the last man, and the last woman, and *the last child* who has sworn allegiance to the King of Glory, and who wants to see the Gospel reach every creature according to the command of our ascended Master, that the charge so often made that a million Methodists give nothing for Missions may be no longer true.

In such a work surely the embassadors of the Lord Jesus Christ can afford to be patient and persistent.

And, behold our Sunday-school army! Can we not rely upon twenty-one thousand Sunday-school superintendents, with their magnificent army of a quarter of a million officers and teachers, and one million seven hundred thousand scholars, to unite with one heart to make this effort completely successful!

O, if there be any argument that can be drawn from the expressed wishes, the words, the commands, the prayers, the tears of Him "who died for us upon the cross, and now ever liveth to make intercession for us," that can be brought to bear upon the hearts and consciences of this great Church to

induce them to lay this Million of Dollars down upon God's altar this year, may its divine and sweetly compelling power be felt in every pulpit, in every Sunday-school, in every Bible class, in every heart of Methodism, until this work is done; until the rich and the poor shall hasten with their offerings, and with songs of thanksgiving shall complete this work.

Bishop BOWMAN writes: "It looks as if your call for a Million will be answered. God grant it!"

Bishop ANDREWS: "The recent marvelous success of our Missions is God's signature to the Missionary plan. May our dear Church signalize its entrance upon its second century by this advance to a million a year!"

Bishop HARRIS: "The need for Missionary money was never so pressing as now; our people were never so well-to-do as now; and the Million for which you ask the Church should be given in this year of grace eighteen hundred and eighty-five."

Bishop MERRILL: "I desire to express my gratification that the call for a Million is put so squarely before the Church, and that the outlook is so encouraging. There is need for every dollar of it without attempting to open a new mission anywhere on the broad earth."

Bishop WARREN: "If the Church would give one hundredth as much money per year to save the world as she gave to save the nation, your ideal Million would be called the day of small things."

Bishop Foss: "We must march up to the Million-dollar line at once. The perishing world demands it of us, and we are able to do it."

Bishop NINDE: "The call has come none too soon. The Million can and must be raised."

Bishop MALLALIEU: "A Million for Missions means many souls converted and saved who would be lost forever if only three quarters of a million should be given. Philanthropy, patriotism, and Christianity demand that we should do more for Missions. Men are perishing for lack of knowledge we might bestow."

Bishop FOWLER: "I expect the West will give a grand response. The East will complete the offering as soon as it has

a chance. God wants this Million. 'We are laborers together' with him."

Bishop FOSTER: "My prayer is, that you may not fail of the Million. The perishing world joins in the prayer. The love of Christ pleads for it. The Church will respond. I hear nothing but encouraging words for the grand effort. Go forward, in the name of the Lord, and may his blessing be with you!"

Bishop WALDEN: "At every Conference my heart sickens over the fields calling for our Church that must be turned empty away. Providence is enforcing your call by a thousand facts."

Bishop HURST while in Europe, on his way home from India, and in a recent letter, wrote: "If from all the lands where our people are now singing Centennial psalms our Church were suddenly blotted out, there is aggressive force in India Methodism alone to sail to all the continents and plant it over again."

The great success of the India Mission must be repeated in many lands.

Bishop TAYLOR is far away and has not been heard from on this question, but doubtless will ere long.

Let us get up to the Million-dollar line, and through divine help we will be able to hold the position, and then "to further conquest go."

JOHN M. REID,
C. C. M'CABE.

Bishop NINDE writes later: "I have just closed my second Conference. Both Conferences are on the Million-dollar line. Interest at blood heat."

Rev. C. V. ANTHONY, Presiding Elder in California Conference, writes: "You asked Stockton District for $1,336 as our share of the Million you propose to raise for Missions this year. We have done it, and have nearly $200 to spare for other fields that come short."

Dr. BUTLER writes: "The collection for the North Nebraska Conference last year was $583. This year it is $1,005, an increase of $422 over last year, and $106 above the apportionment of the Million-dollar Chart."

OUR MISSIONARY PERIODICALS.

For general articles on Missions, and special information respecting our Mission fields, see "The Gospel in All Lands."

THE GOSPEL IN ALL LANDS, 48 pages monthly, gives a very full account of the Mission work in all lands, and especially in the fields where our missionaries are at work. The price is $2 a year. Ten copies and over, each $1 25 a year. To Methodist preachers in the United States and Canada, $1 a year. To Methodist missionaries at any post-office in the Postal Union, $1 25 a year.

Commencing with June, 1885, "The Gospel in All Lands" has been the representative of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The illustrated article for June was "Mexico;" July, the "Indians;" August, "South America;" September, "Sweden and Norway."

THE MISSIONARY WORLD, for young people, 8 pages monthly; one copy, 25 cents; twenty copies and over, each 12 cents a year. This contains instructive missionary reading, a letter to Sunday-schools from one of our missionaries, a Missionary Catechism, etc.

THE LITTLE MISSIONARY, for the children, 4 pages monthly; one copy, 25 cents; twenty copies and over, each 6 cents a year. Filled with missionary pictures and stories, it will increase the interest the children feel in missions.

We urge upon all our presiding elders and preachers the importance of securing the largest possible circulation for our missionary periodicals. Our people need the information these contain, and an earnest persistent effort will place them in every Methodist family.

We are obliged to require payment in advance. If the periodicals shall pay their way, we must avoid the expense of charging and collecting the bills. The prices are made low, that they may be as small a tax as possible upon the subscribers. Please do not ask us to charge to your account, but forward the money with the order, or when you ascertain the amount required. Do not send orders to Phillips & Hunt or to the Missionary Secretaries, but order of, and make all checks and post-office orders payable to,

THE GOSPEL IN ALL LANDS,
805 Broadway, New York.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL UNION.

REPORT OF THE AGENT FOR THE SOUTH AND WEST.

The Rev. A. H. GILLET, D.D., our Agent for the South and West, sent the following report to the September meeting of the Board:

Correspondence has been kept up during the quarter with all parts of the field, but more especially with the portions visited during the previous quarter. The most encouraging reports have been received, both from presiding elders and pastors. Revivals, resulting in the accession of several hundred members to our Church, are reported from New Iberia, Baldwin, Alexandria, Donaldsonville, Washington, Shreveport, and other places in Louisiana; and from Galveston, Houston, Austin, San Antonio, Marshall, Fort Worth, and other points in Texas. Many points in Arkansas have been graciously visited in the same way. Among the numbers reported, as resulting from the Sunday-school and evangelistic trip of last spring, are 192 at Galveston, 140 in one church at Austin, and nearly as many in another; 80, 60, and 40 are severally reported from three other places, and one presiding elder states that his district is in the last half of 1,000 converts pledged at the time of one visit.

The increase in the number and membership of the Sunday-schools in these places has been as gratifying, several pastors having reported their schools as more than doubled in attendance, while in each Conference a goodly number of new schools have been organized. More local and district Sunday-school meetings have been held since April 1 in Arkansas, Texas, and Louisiana than for years before. A deep and abiding interest has been awakened, which only needs fostering and direction in order to show most excellent results.

The two young men, Revs. Messrs. Lyon and Mason, of New Orleans, who assisted us in our work last April, have improved every opportunity afforded to carry on the work in the territory adjacent to the city. They recently visited Woodville, Baton Rouge, Clinton, Terrebonne, Thibodeaux, Baldwin, Cypremort, and New Iberia; at each place the attendance was large and the interest good. At Baton Rouge over fifty persons were at the altar the first evening, and the next morning, at eight o'clock, the church, which is a large one, was full. The subjects discussed at these meetings were such as "The Necessity of Early Conversion," "The Duties of the Superintendent," "The Place and Work of the Teacher," "The Teacher's Relation to the Pastor," "The Sunday-school: What it is and What Makes it a Success?" "Duties of Parents to Children, to the Church, and to God."

If in these regions, where so much work is needed, and where the work-

ers are so scarce, and where even the good ones are prevented from doing any work in this line by poverty, their own and that of those they serve, the authorized agents could have permission to employ such, paying their railroad fare to and from the work they are desired to do, I am sure good would result sufficient to far more than pay the investment the Sunday-School Union would make. The calls for help from this part of the field, the South-west, have been frequent and urgent. Many of these calls have been promptly responded to by the committee at St. Louis. The donations have, of necessity, been small, and I have every reason to believe that we have not used more than one third the sum really needed to supply these schools. I am very confident that larger and more frequent donations would bring ample returns.

Since the 20th of June my time has been quite fully occupied by assembly work. I have attended and conducted the Normal Class work at four assemblies, as follows: the Arkansas Chautauqua, Siloam Springs, Ark.; the Maplewood Park Assembly, Waseca, Minn.; the Island Park Assembly, Rome City, Ind.; the Menona Lake Assembly, Madison, Wis.

Three of these I have had entire charge of, preparing the programme and conducting all the exercises. The average attendance on the normal class was about fifty. The interest awakened in Sunday-school Normal work at these western assemblies has been much greater than at the previous sessions. A large number of church classes will result. At each of these meetings Methodist Episcopal preachers and Sunday-school workers were called together for a conference on denominational work. The claims of the Oxford League and of our own periodical and permanent Sunday-school literature were presented at each.

I have traveled during the quarter about 4,000 miles, without expense to the Union; taught 56 normal-class sessions; preached 8 sermons; attended 11 Sunday-school sessions; written over 600 letters, besides doing a large amount of other work. The second-hand book department has been moved from Cincinnati to my home, at Wyoming, Ohio, and is in a flourishing condition. We have to-day packed for shipment over five hundred volumes, and have applications for many more.

"THE GOOD TIDINGS."

The following letter, in reference to the observance of "Good Tidings Day," is from one of our presiding elders in the South, and will show how this paper is appreciated:

When I got back from the North I found in my pile of unread letters your circular asking the attention of the preachers and others to that department of the work committed so extensively to your care. I took the same to my recent preachers' meeting, and had it referred to a committee, who made a good report, which met with great favor from the brethren. I do not know that you will get much money, but such as we have we give. We make grateful acknowledgment to God and yourself and those working

with you in this cause. We feel a sense of obligation we cannot express for the special work you have been doing for the South. I have noticed it in my twenty years of labor here. You deserve a monument to your memory, and it is being built, more durable than brass or marble. You have done great things for us in the quantity generously given, but more especially in the quality so well adapted to meet our wants, which, of course, have been peculiar. Our Church is really at the front in this great work. God bless you more and more!

AID FROM THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

This noble Society has, for many years, furnished our Sunday-School Union with grants of Bibles and Testaments whenever we have asked for them. These books are not given to us to be granted to all Sunday-schools applying for them, but to those only which cannot obtain them in any other way. In most parts of our country our schools are within reach of some one of the numerous county or State depositories of the American Bible Society, and our rule is to refer to these depositories all applicants from their vicinity who write to us. In many places, however, especially in the more sparsely settled portions of the country, there are no such depositories. When pastors so situated apply to us for a grant of Bibles or Testaments, we are glad to supply them from the grants made to us by the American Bible Society.

It is not deemed best, however, to distribute these gifts without some understanding of the resources of the applicants. Experience has shown that the books are more appreciated if some amount, even though it be trifling, is paid for them. Hence we ask in every instance if some small sum, a few cents for each volume, cannot be returned in consideration of the grant. This helps to pay the postage (when the books are sent by mail, as they often must be), and the balance, if any, is sent to the Bible Society.

Sometimes, however, we receive applications from places where the poverty is so extreme that the people cannot send any thing in return. In such cases the Bibles and Testaments are sent, literally, "without money and without price," and even the expense of transportation is paid by the Sunday-School Union.

During the past summer we have supplied a number of

destitute schools in the South with the word of God. Our faithful agent, Dr. Gillet, in his visits found great destitution in this respect in some sections. As soon as we could correspond with the pastors and obtain the details needed, the books were sent. That they were joyfully received is evident from the letters acknowledging the receipt of the grants. We give extracts from a few of these as specimens of the whole.

A pastor in the South writes:

I received by mail the Bibles and Testaments sent. We kindly thank you for having sent them to us. May the Lord help you to do so again!

Another from the same section writes:

We received your Bibles and Testaments. We were very glad to receive them. We hope to see the time when we shall have a book for every scholar in the school. You have the regards of the whole school for the gift of these books.

And another:

I am under many obligations to you for the Bibles and Testaments you sent us. Our Sunday-school was made happy when I announced to them it was a grant from the Sunday-School Union. We shall remember the Sunday-School Union.

Another:

The books were all received, and we are more than obliged to you and friends for your kindness, and shall try and do all we can for the Sunday-School Union, and hope to have many such good favors from your department.

A presiding elder, to whom a supply of Bibles was sent for some of his destitute schools, writes:

The Bibles are on hand. They will go into many a home where a Bible has never been. I must thank you for helping our people. I have been in Georgia twelve years, and a preacher all that time, and this is the first donation of Bibles we have had in these mountains so far as I know.

Thus gladness has been carried to many a place by the reception of the word of God. There is no reason why any Sunday-school should be without the Bible. Let proper efforts be made and the books can be obtained.

TRACT SOCIETY.

GERMANY.

THE following interesting letter from the Rev. H. Nuelsen, dated Bremen, June 9, will indicate some of the difficulties of tract work in Germany:

In the kingdom of Prussia and other German lands the distribution of tracts is connected with some difficulty. Here in Bremen, for instance, persons cannot distribute tracts without a written permission from the authorities. The other day my Johnny, aged twelve, wanted to give some tracts away on the streets and public places, but was told that he first had to go to the police and get a certificate, otherwise he would be liable to be fined and imprisoned. He accordingly went to the principal officer of police, and after a sharp examination as to who he was, and what his motives were in distributing tracts, whether his tracts were going to be of a purely religious nature, and if any pay was expected by him, etc., he at last got a certificate containing his full name, and describing his stature, like in a passport, and stating that the bearer was authorized to distribute, but only gratis, religious tracts, pamphlets, and books in restaurants and beer houses, as well as in public places and on the highways. He first applied for the whole Methodist public, but he was told that every one had to come individually and receive the same license. Since that several young men have applied, and they are now diligently engaged in this good work. I suppose this arrangement was made on account of socialistic agitations; it is to control the distribution of their writings. From Berlin, our pastor, Rev. G. Frei, reports that a considerable number of young men are distributing tracts and cards of invitation to divine service. About 80,000 pages of tracts have been scattered by them in a short time.

ITALY.

Dr. Vernon writes from Rome, August 26, 1885, the following encouraging facts concerning the Quarterly Review, which is now closing the second year of its publication, and is under the editorial management of the Rev. Dr. Caporali, a member of the Italy Conference:

The "Nuova Scienza" has attained a very remarkable consideration from high authorities, not only in Italy, but also in Germany, France, and Spain, as well as in England and America. The encomiums bestowed upon it, and printed, in part, in the successive numbers, are ample, various, em-

phatic, and enthusiastic. It is a very John the Baptist preparing the way of the Lord among the intellectual ranks of this whole nation. Its voice is almost the only one which rings along those lines in fearless defiance and irresistible logic against atheistic and non-Christian thinking and tendencies. I heartily believe that this one instrumentality stands forth boldly, alone and high above any other single one in importance, as a worker for God in Italy, finally for the poor and humble quite as well as for the educated classes.

You have done a most timely and noble service in aiding this enterprise, peculiar indeed, but well adapted to the time and place. The grand work is well begun, and I trust will soon have gained such momentum as to run by its own force. The Review is beginning to be quoted in books issuing from the press, to be cited in university discourses and discussions, where the fundamentals of religion and morality are under treatment.

BULGARIA.

With the revival of our mission in Bulgaria comes a demand for religious literature. This demand our brethren in that field are endeavoring to supply. The following letter from the Rev. D. C. Challis, dated Loftcha, July 29, 1885, will show the plan devised, and the efforts these brethren are making to help themselves. The Board unhesitatingly made the grant asked for:

At our annual meeting, held last week in Sistof, the members of the mission resolved themselves into an association for the publication of a monthly periodical in Bulgaria.

It is to be confined strictly to religious subjects, with the special aim to develop a deeper Christian experience of the love of Christ in the hearts of native Christians. It is to be called "Christiansky Svidêtel" (Christian Witness.)

Brother Thomoff was elected editor and Brother Economoff assistant. All members of the mission can become members of the association by paying an annual fee of five francs. Other persons, members of the Church, are constituted honorary members by the payment of two francs annually. It will be printed on our mission press, at a cost of about $100 per year for 1,000 copies. It contains eight pages. I will send a specimen by this or the next post.

My object in writing you is to ask a grant from the Tract Society of $50 to assist us in its publication. This, together with membership fees and subscriptions (one franc per annum), will doubtless cover the expense of running it successfully. The members become responsible for any deficit after using up the above-mentioned sum. We will take care that the material is such that it will be of permanent value, and it may be sold as tracts in separate numbers.

THE QUARTERLY CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON TRACTS.*

Methodism has no superfluous wheels in its ecclesiastical machinery. It was not prepared beforehand by some inventive ecclesiastical expert. Each wheel was formed as its need was developed. The Quarterly Conference Committees have largely fallen into disuse. Let me point your attention to a few facts of duty and privilege. The Tract Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church is one of the best managed, livest, most efficient departments of publication of religious literature found in the Christian Church in the world.

The range of our tract publications is very broad. You can make up a library of Christian doctrine and ecclesiastical literature, from the very best authorities, at the very lowest price, that can be gathered from any source. The evangelical work, Church work, beneficence, and every branch of Christian thought and work is put as "apples of gold in pictures of silver."

Now, this Tract Society belongs to the whole Church—to every individual church. It is your tool-chest. Permit a suggestion or two as to its use. Let the Committee on Tracts arrange a plan of systematic distribution of tracts in the field occupied by the church it serves. Get the pastor to take a collection, and get a good supply selected to meet the needs of your field. Is there ecclesiastical assumption in your community? and are there preachers who claim prior powers and prerogatives by which they assume to be the only true administrators of the ordinances of the Church? Get a good supply of "Our Own Church Series," and circulate them as broadly as the infection goes. Is there Sunday desecration in your midst, you will find the best correctives for this evil. For any form of evil or heresy, you need only state the diagnosis of your case, and you can get a tract prescription that will prove an antidote or corrective.

Let the Committee on Tracts arrange for systematic work. If you are to have special services, distribute the evangelistic tracts, of which there is a full supply covering the wohle field. Do this with care and use your best wit in this work. Put

* From an article in the "Central Christian Advocate," by the Rev. M. D. Collins, of the Des Moines Conference.

them in the houses and circulate them at the church. If your town has a railroad, put up a neat tract-case in the depot and keep it supplied. If there are several railroads centering there, let one distributer go to the trains once a week and supply railroad men and hands. If you have a railroad employee in your church, enlist him in the work.

Heart in it, systematic study of the situation, and earnest and thorough work will give large returns to the kingdom of our Master.

HOW TO DISTRIBUTE TRACTS.

We have received the following excellent letter from the Rev. Philip Cline, pastor of our church in Vineland, New Jersey Conference. It shows what may be done by systematic effort:

In answer to your published request for "Practical Plans for Tract Distribution," allow me to state a plan I have adopted in my charge.

I have called to my aid my "Tract Committee" and divided our territory into twenty districts. We have prepared a book for each district, in which are questions, such as, Names of families visited? Residence? Whether members of church? Number of children who attend Sunday-school? Number who do not attend Sunday-school? New families in the place? Number who are sick?

We mark the boundaries of districts in the books. We furnish a variety of tracts to each distributer, and give special instructions as to their work. We propose to have each district canvassed once a month. We shall hold a monthly meeting, at which to receive reports and readjust work as far as necessary, and have prayers for God's blessing on the work and workers. We endeavor, as far as we can, to employ two persons for each district. I have about thirty employed on the twenty districts.

I believe in the English Wesleyan Methodist plan of tract work as the best and cheapest. By loaning and changing the tracts, according to that plan, instead of giving them away, the same tracts can be passed around a whole district. We need a trained class of persons in our churches to do this kind of work.

BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION.

DIRECTORY.

PROPER CORPORATE NAME: "THE BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH."

OFFICE: CHURCH EXTENSION ROOMS, NO. 1026 ARCH STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

ORGANIZATION, CHARTER, ETC.—See Discipline, Edition of 1884, ¶¶ 297 to 320. See also Report to General Conference of 1884; tracts, etc., furnished by the Board.

THE GENERAL COMMITTEE meets annually in the month of November in the Church Extension Rooms, Philadelphia, Pa.

THE BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION meets on the second Wednesday in each month in the Church Extension Rooms.

THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, *Rev. A. J. Kynett, D.D.*, has charge of all the correspondence and business of the Board. All communications should be addressed to him at No. 1026 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

THE TREASURER, *James Long, Esq.*, has charge of the funds, as his office implies. All remittances of money should be by draft on New York, or Post-office Money-order on Philadelphia, Pa., payable to his order, and inclosed to the Corresponding Secretary as above directed.

ALL APPLICATIONS FOR AID must be made, as the Discipline provides, upon blank forms furnished by the Board, and in strict accordance therewith.

IN ALL BEQUESTS the following form should be observed:

I give and bequeath to "THE BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH," incorporated by the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania, the sum of .....; and the receipt of the Treasurer thereof shall be a sufficient discharge to my Executors for the same.

IN DEVISES OF REAL ESTATE observe the following:

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.....

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to have and to hold the same, with the appurtenances, to the said Board, its successors and assigns, forever.

Persons making Bequests and Devises to the Board, or knowing that they have been made, are requested to notify the Corresponding Secretary, at No. 1026 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa., and, if practicable, to inclose a copy of the clause in the will, that the wishes of the testator may be fully known.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, blank deeds, church plans, tracts, leaflets, etc., concerning Church Extension, write to the Corresponding Secretary.

☞ See Discipline of 1884, ¶¶ 297 to 320.

OUR MODEL CHURCHES.

In the July number of the Manual we gave a brief history of the development of our architectural plans. No department of our work has given more general satisfaction, and yet we find it difficult to get all our Trustees and Building Committees to avail themselves of it as they should Many seem to remain in ignorance of the fact that we are prepared to furnish such a variety, and at such small expense; others think that their carpenter or builder can furnish as good or better; not a few take the picture and description from the catalogue, and then write to us that they are building by *our plan;* and many who order the plans, as the Catalogue directs, make or allow changes without the approval of the architect. All such departures from the instructions given in the Catalogue are unwise, and in nine cases out of ten prove unsatisfactory to the people themselves. The only wise thing to do, is to select plans from the Catalogue, or if there be nothing there satisfactory, write to the architect, giving full information as to lot, streets, etc., and suggest what is wanted, and then accept his opinion as you would that of a competent physician when sick, or of a lawyer if you had a case in court, and when you have adopted your plans, allow no departure from them, without the approval of the architect who furnished the plans.

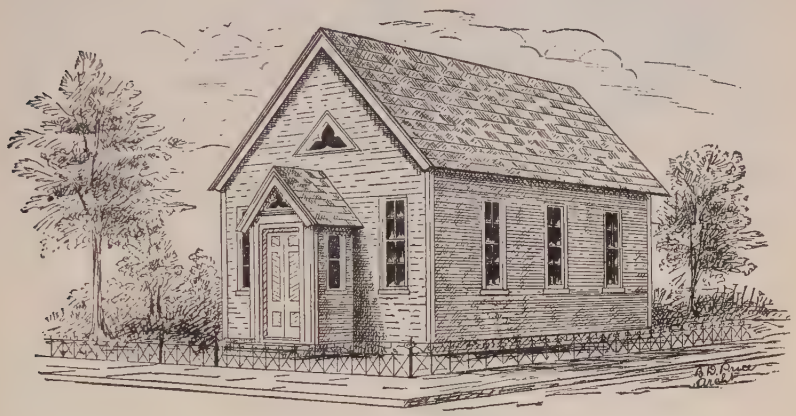
Four years ago the General Committee unanimously adopted the following:

Resolved, That it is the judgment of the General Committee that in all cases where aid is granted by the Board of Church Extension for the building of churches, the Board should insist that the churches be built in accordance with the excellent plans furnished by the Board.

With this judgment of the General Committee, including all our Bishops, on record and still in force, and published repeatedly during a period of four years, we feel persuaded that the time has come for us to say, that if Trustees and Building Committees will persist in the folly of building without plans they must furnish their own money.

Up to September 1, 1885, we have furnished plans for 2,089 churches and 71 parsonages, and we have most gratifying reports of the results from all quarters. We know of no dissatisfaction where our plans have been strictly followed.

For *Catalogue* describing churches and parsonages, address A. J. Kynett, D.D., 1026 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa.



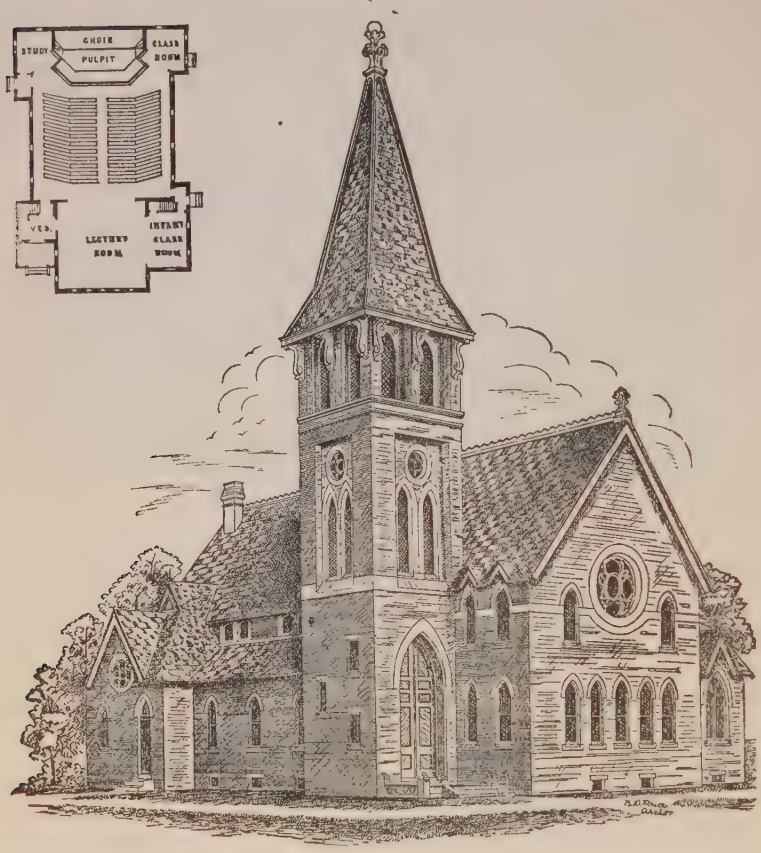
PLAN NO. 1.

This appears in our Catalogue as Plan No. 1. It is the smallest and cheapest of all, and is furnished for fifteen different sizes varying from 16x22 to 24x42, and the plans, detailed drawings, specifications, and form of contract, complete, cost from $2 to $4. The building would cost, where labor and material are cheap, from $300 to $1,000. The construction is of the cheapest character consistent with strength and durability, and may be with or without plastering.

From this our plans grade upward as to size and cost and accommodations afforded; those standing next, being described as No. 1 A and No. 1 B, being larger and of similar appearance, with the addition of a belfry; the sizes running up to 28x50 feet, and the expense of building and of plans correspondingly increased.

If you want to build, send for catalogue, and follow directions therein.

PAPER IMITATION OF STAINED GLASS.—Price & Co. inform us that this article continues to be ordered and used, and that those who apply it according to directions, express their satisfaction with the result. See their advertisement and what we have said in the July number of the *Manual.*



PLAN NO. 11 A.

This one appears as No. 11 A, and the plans provide for building in brick or stone. The extreme dimensions are 56x86 feet. The auditorium is 46 feet wide, clear-story, 30 feet high in the middle. The lecture room is 28x28 feet in the clear, and 11 feet 6 inches high. The infant-class room is 13x21 feet. The parlor is placed over the lecture room; it is 28x28 feet. A gallery opens from the parlor; it is 10x28 feet. The class room and pastor's study are each 12x14 feet, with a corner off. These rooms open into audience room with glass-paneled folding doors. The choir is placed in the rear of the pulpit. The tower is 14x14 feet square, and 95 feet high. The auditorium will seat 300; when all the rooms are

open over 500 persons can be seated without crowding. The study and class room are arranged to be heated with stoves. The building is heated with a furnace. Where labor and materials are cheap, it will cost about $9,000 in brick.

OUR CHURCH EXTENSION SERVICE OF SONG.

Our reading and song service is received with universal favor where introduced and used in accordance with the design. Among the favorable notices in our Church papers we clip the following.

From "Zion's Herald:"

The Church Extension Society issues a very well-arranged and interesting "Service of Song" for an anniversary exercise of this broad and important charity of the Church. It has in it the words and music of that striking and popular hymn of Rev. A. J. Hough, "We're Building Two a Day." Copies can be obtained at $2 per 100 from the office in Philadelphia (1026 Arch Street).

From "The Baltimore Methodist:"

The indefatigable Dr. Kynett, Secretary of the Board of Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church, has issued a large and beautiful "Service of Song" for churches and Sunday-schools, $2 per 100, or $5 for 300. The texts, readings, music, etc., are first-class, and could be appropriately used on many occasions. The Church Extension Society ought to have a prominent thought and place in every Methodist church. We suggest that our pastors arrange an early period in the year for this collection and use this well-prepared "Service of Song." Out of the collection taken for the cause of Church Extension you can subtract the cost of procuring them. If you have no other collection programmed for Easter, give this one a chance. The Church Extension Society has helped many a church in the Baltimore Conference.

From "The Central Christian Advocate:"

The Board of Church Extension has published a "Service of Song for Churches and Sunday-schools," as the basis of Church Extension meetings in all the charges. It has been arranged by the Secretary of the Board, Rev. Dr. Kynett, and consists of Scripture readings, hymns with music, the annual map showing what has been accomplished during the year, and some other matters of interest. It is intended that each pastor shall make use of this method in raising the annual collection for Church Extension. The "Service" can be had for $2 per 100, and the pastor is allowed to pay for it out of the collection.

From "The North-western Christian Advocate:"

The Church Extension Society has printed a sixteen-page pamphlet as a Song Service for churches and Sunday-schools. The aims of the society, Scripture readings which embody church building duty and privilege, splendid hymns from the Hymnal with Tunes, and ample statistics make the pamphlet attractive and effective. The Church aims to obtain one Sunday or one service in the year for this cause, and the song service is designed as rifles, bayonets, and powder for that occasion. Dr. Kynett asks pastors to send for the Song Service in quantities at the rate of 100 for $2, or 300 for $5. The pastor so doing will be allowed to reimburse himself from the collections for Church Extension. The excellence of the pamphlet and the plan to pay for it ought to secure sale for an edition of 2,000,000.

Several pastors have ordered and used it with great satisfaction. All who examine it carefully think more of Methodism, and it mightily helps the collection. For example, Rev. H. F. Pease, of Lamartine, Wis., after using it, writes the Church Extension Secretary as follows:

Inclosed find our annual collection for Church Extension: $20 plus $2 for the 100 Song Services sent us some time ago. We used the "Service of Song" and found it very helpful. Our receipts are nearly double the apportionment, and twice as much as has been raised here during the past eight years. For one I can give a hearty Amen to this movement. The Song Service is just the thing. Give it a better notice through Church papers, so that the brethren may not overlook it.

We did this, and we furnish it for our Conference anniversaries so all our preachers may see it in use. A service similar to the Conference anniversary might be held with inestimable advantage in all our churches and Sunday-schools.

We request pastors to remit the cost of printing and mailing when ordering, for two reasons: We wish to avoid sending it where it may not be used, and to avoid using collections taken in one church to pay the expenses of this service for another.

Any pastor or Sunday-school superintendent desiring to examine it will receive a copy by requesting it on a postal card addressed to

A. J. Kynett, D.D.,

1026 Arch Street, Phila., Pa.

ACCURATE STATISTICS.

A friend calls attention to the following, clipped from the "California Christian Advocate," and thinks it ought to be explained:

> Dr. C. C. M'Cabe, anxious to have perfectly accurate statistics of our whole Church, made a call for special efforts in this behalf. We second that, and refer to figures we have just seen. The Church Extension Society aided, during the year 1884, 483 churches. The General Minutes give 387 as the increase for the year. We know that many churches were built without any aid from the Church Extension Board. They aided 483, and there can be no mistake about that; but our Minutes give nearly a hundred less as the increase of the year.

The implication seems to be that the one or the other of the figures given must be inaccurate. We have no means of verifying those given in the General Minutes, but the 483 reported by the Board of Church Extension are given, in detail, in the printed report of the Board for 1884, and the name of each place, with the amount of aid granted to each, is published as taken from the books of the office, and the vouchers for each payment have been examined by the Auditing Committee of the Board (except only a few paid otherwise in some of the German Conferences), so that it is *truly* said, "There can be no mistake about that."

These possible explanations lie on the surface:

1. The two years do not synchronize. That of the General Minutes is the Conference year for each Conference, closing within the calendar year. The Church Extension year is from Nov. 1 to Oct. 31 of each year.

2. The Board of Church Extension aids many churches which do not add to the number in the denomination, as in rebuilding, enlarging, paying debts, etc., etc.

If any one is in doubt as to the correctness of the figures given by the Board, let him take the list in the published report, and inquire at each of the places named.

By the way, why not be accurate in the use of names? Why write "Church Extension Society" and "Church Extension Board," etc., etc., and not the proper corporate name, "The Board of Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church?" There is something in a name when it comes to be written in a will, and errors like these ought not to be per-

petuated by a carelessness, near akin to that which is at the bottom of inaccuracies in statistics.

It is proper to add that sometimes the same church is aided a second time by the Board of Church Extension, but always with great reluctance, and then when the fact is recognized it is not counted a second time in the aggregate number.

If all our statistics were as accurate as those of our Board there would be little cause to complain. As it is, the officials of the government census recognize our statistics as the nearest approach to accuracy of any of the Churches of the country.

METHOD IN METHODISM.

A correspondent of "The Central Christian Advocate," for whose loyalty to Methodism the editor vouches, writing concerning our Church Extension Song Service and similar provisions for service in the interest of other benevolent causes, and efforts to get special days devoted to them, wants to know whether we are not getting too much machinery into our Church, and inquires: "Is the Church to become a huge complex machine, which shall take away all self-reliant Christian character and activity? Will it come to pass one of these days that no one can do any thing except as a part of the machine?" The good editor makes suitable reply, and, among other good things, says:

Methodists do well to watch carefully the line of our Church development even along what seems to be the less important matters. We have allowed and provided for great freedom of personal action, hoping to accomplish every thing by an awakened conscience which would so quicken the sense of personal responsibility that free play might be allowed to the individual. Our Connectional work has been left largely to what business men would call chance. We have known official boards to decide that it was not best to take up any or certain collections. It has been no uncommon thing for pastors to put off the collections, or some of them, until no time remained to properly present them. We have allowed the greatest liberty in these matters. But for some years past an effort has been made by the General Conference to promote regularity, and to locate the responsibility of failure or neglect. The pastor makes a public verbal report to the Conference of the more important collections. The appointment of "Children's Day," "Good Tidings Day," and the printed programme of services for these days and Missionary and Church Extension, are intended as means to secure regularity in the collections. The plain order of the Discipline does not always suffice. But when a particular day is appointed,

and a special programme prepared, the probability of neglect is lessened. This, we take it, is the entire meaning of arranging particular days for the collections, and providing "exercises" in which the more important facts in regard to the societies are brought to the attention of the people.

But we must guard against mere mechanical religious services in our giving as well as in our worship of praise and prayer. There is fear that an exact sum having been asked for from a society, that when it is secured the consciences of the members are satisfied without properly considering whether the contribution has been according to the ability or prosperity of each member, as it ought to be. And the same may be said in regard to the other collections. The pastors need to set forth from the pulpit the vital principles of Church life side by side with the principles of personal spiritual religion. The most perfect machinery is nothing without the living spirit; and, on the other hand, the living spirit accomplishes its best results with the most perfect system of machinery.

If we could have but one of the two—either "a huge complex machine," or "self-reliant Christian character and activity"—we should have no hesitation in choosing the latter for the Church of Christ. But why put the one over against the other? Are not the very name and history of our Church a perpetual demonstration of the entire harmony of *method* with "self-reliant Christian character and activity?" Is not Methodism "Christianity in earnest?" and has not the earnest Christian spirit of Methodism forever sought effective expression through well-chosen methods from the days of the "Holy Club of Oxford" until now? This is why the Church Extension Song Service and similar services in the interest of our great benevolences are proposed, and our pastors who avail themselves of them are among the most earnest, spirited, and *spiritual* as well, in all the Church. It is well to have fire and water and steam, but we want "huge complex machinery," boilers and engines and all the appliances through which power may work out practical results. Patriotism and independent self-reliant citizenship are good things, but when the country is to be defended against an enemy, or active aggressive warfare is imperative, patriotic citizens come together in well-organized and well-disciplined regiments and brigades and divisions and army corps. Without such organization and method self-reliant patriots would be but a disorganized mob, and would flee before an enemy like chaff before the wind.

We suspect this plea for independent self-reliant activity is

but an excuse in most cases for "falling out of line," while the disciplined hosts march on. We have more than 10,000 pastoral charges and over 1,750,000 members, and for a score of years we have been doing all we can to enlist all in this Church Extension work, universally admitted to be one of the most important to the success of our Church in this country, and yet in more than 2,000 of our pastoral charges—one fifth of all our churches—not a soul gives a penny; and put all together, the average is less than seven cents a year for each member. Surely it is time for more self-reliant Christian character and activity and *method* which shall enlist all for concerted and harmonious action in every department of our Church work.

MINNESOTA.

This State, so named for the "sky-tinted" waters of its numerous lakes, is one of the most important and thrifty in the development of which we have shared. By our Church Extension work within its bounds we have strengthened all that is noblest and best in that great and growing commonwealth. Of the 295 Methodist Episcopal Churches, American, German, Swedish, Norwegian, etc., which contribute to its moral and material welfare, we have aided, in all, 195, and we hope to do better work in the next decade than in the past.

Take a look at this beauty of the North-west, through the eyes of Bishop Foss, as shown in the following extracts from an article furnished by him for "The Christian Advocate" a short time ago:

Minnesota occupies the most elevated plateau between the Gulf of Mexico and Hudson Bay, and forms the water-shed of the three great river systems of the eastern half of North America—the Mississippi, the St. Lawrence, and the Red River of the North—its average elevation being just about 1,000 feet, and the highest point 1,680 feet.

My theme is also a very *large* one, including 83,365 square miles—more than New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont, and New Hampshire, all put together. Of this area 4,160 square miles are water surface. The lakes in the State number more than seven thousand, and would twice cover the whole State of Delaware.

CLIMATE.

Concerning the climate of Minnesota, I condense the statement of the *Encyclopedia Britannica:* "Its elevation above sea-level gives an agree-

able rarefaction to the atmosphere, and makes the prevalence of fogs and damp weather unknown. As a rule, the comparative dryness of the atmosphere neutralizes the severest effect of successive cold. The Smithsonian chart assigns to Minnesota an average temperature for the hottest week in summer of from 85° to 90°, and for the coldest week in winter from 10° to 20° below zero. The average annual rain-fall is about 25.5 inches. It is evident that the causes which mitigate the actual severity of the climate as felt, which produce so large a number of clear days, and which forbid the continued presence of a large amount of moisture in the atmosphere, are those which render a climate healthful in the highest degree. Minnesota has been for many years a favorite resort for invalids. The curative properties of its climate are especially marked in the case of pulmonary complaints."

History.

It requires a strong effort of the mind for a tourist to realize the newness of this whole region. He finds near the Falls of St. Anthony, at the head of navigation of the Mississippi, Minneapolis and St. Paul, these *dual* cities (it is to be lamented that the facts require a change of one letter in the spelling of this epithet), having an aggregate population of at least 200,000. Thirty-six years ago, when Minnesota was organized as a Territory, it contained a civilized population of whites and half-breeds of only 4,857. In 1858 (nine years after), when it was admitted as a State, its population was 150,092; in 1870, 439,706, a gain of 155 per cent. in a decade—the most rapid gain of any State, but Kansas—in 1880, 780,773, an increase of 75 per cent. in ten years; in 1885, at least 1,000,000. Almost exactly one third of the population were foreign born, including 107,720 from Scandinavian countries, 77,505 from Germany, and 68,277 from the United Kingdom and the British Colonies.

In politics the State has always been strongly Republican; and in the last election its Republican majority is said to have been larger in proportion to its population than that of any other State in the Union.

Resources.

The vastness and the rapid development of the resources of Minnesota may justly excite the amazement of the older States. The assessed value of property is now more than $400,000,000, an increase of 50 per cent. in four years. Taxes are very light, and the public treasury is more than full. The total receipts last year were almost $4,000,000, and there is an unexpended balance of $936,795. The sale of State lands and the tax on the income of railroads furnish a large part of the revenue.

The railroads have made the State. They traverse it in all directions, stretching 4,162 miles (256 miles of which have been constructed within the past year). Their total annual earnings exceed $23,000,000. They have, of late, inaugurated a "transit tyranny," which the present "granger" Legislature will, probably, overthrow, the charge for transporting a bushel of wheat from many a small town to Chicago having been more than half its value.

The chief sources of wealth are wheat, lumber, and stock-raising. Not much fruit is raised, but much of the land is well adapted to diversified farming, and excellently to the raising of the very best wheat in the world.

One quarter of the land in the State has been donated to railroad companies. The construction of the roads has given value to the land, which has been sold at such moderate prices as to invite rapid immigration and settlement. Ten millions of acres yet remain to be possessed.

The phenomenal growth of Minneapolis is suggestive of the rate of development of the country round about. In 1860 its population was 5,882; in 1870, 18,079; in 1880, 46,887; now not less than 110,000. It has the largest flour mill in the world. This mill can turn out 5,200 barrels of flour per day. The aggregate capacity of its 27 mills is more than 30,000 barrels daily. Its lumber product is similarly large. In a single year there have been built in this city stores with a frontage of a mile and a quarter, and dwelling-houses to the number of 2,800.

I have thus, in rapid outline, sketched the climate, history, and material resources of the infant Hercules of the States. Its educational, moral, and religious condition and outlook yet remain to be considered.

Minnesota—Its Higher Interests.

The common-school system of the State is supported by large land grants and by taxation. It may be said to be munificently endowed. The school lands comprise every sixteenth and thirty-sixth section, and constitute one-eighteenth of the entire public domain. The principal of the fund thus accruing now amounts to more than six millions of dollars, is expected to reach twenty millions, and is protected by the Constitution against diminution. Of course there has not been time to bring the schools in the new counties to a high standard of excellence; but in many of the villages and larger towns the schools are exceedingly creditable, and in several of the cities they compare very favorably with the best in the Atlantic States.

Minneapolis has been especially favored for many years with the services of an exceptionally capable Superintendent of Schools, and its school buildings and methods are very superior. Minnesota has three normal schools, with 1,375 pupils. "For the further training of teachers the Superintendent of Public Instruction is required to hold annually in the thinly settled counties as many State Teachers' Institutes as practicable, each to continue in session at least one week."

The State University, located in Minneapolis, is well supported by annual appropriations, and has prospective permanent funds amounting to $3,000,000. It admits both sexes, offers a great variety of courses, and lays but little stress on the old-time curriculum. Its new president, Prof. Cyrus Northop (recently from Yale), is a pronounced evangelical Christian, and four of its professors are Methodists. Its recent observance of the Day of Prayer for Colleges was very devout and fervent. The new *régime* has brought about a most gratifying change in the religious atmosphere. Would that all State colleges might learn that if they wish to educate

truly—that is, to teach their pupils "how to live completely" (which is Herbert Spencer's definition of the end of true education)—they cannot afford to ignore the Ruler of the Universe, nor flout the "One Lawgiver."

Several of the religious denominations have efficient colleges and schools—the Congregationalists, Episcopalians, Methodists, Roman Catholics, and Lutherans, perhaps others. The Presbyterians have erected a college building, which is not yet opened for use. The Baptists are projecting a college. Hamline University is the chief Methodist educational center in this region. It has three exceedingly commodious buildings, erected at a cost of about $90,000, and paid for; a capable faculty, 126 students, and the best actual and prospective endowment of any institution of our Church west of Evanston.

The moral and religious *status* and prospects of Minnesota furnish food for deep thought and incitement to strenuous work. The population is one third of foreign birth; of these, two fifths are Scandinavians, one third Germans, and one fifth from Great Britain and Ireland. Composite nations have been the strong nations. Such a composite people as will throng the cities and prairies of Minnesota in 1950 ought to be a very strong people physically, intellectually, morally, and will be, if— But O, that great and uncertain if! The Germans drink a great deal of beer, the Swedes and Norwegians whisky, and the Irish both. The Scandinavians Americanize easily; the Germans very slowly. Sabbath desecration abounds. Greed of gain and addiction to popular amusements honeycomb the Church. The zero weather, or something else, seems to chill religious fervor. In general there are fewer revivals in Minnesota than in Pennsylvania or Ohio.

These are general statements. To take them as universal would be unjust. Some excellent work for the temperance reform is done among and by our foreign-born citizens, conspicuous among whom in this regard are the Roman Catholic Bishop Ireland, of St. Paul, and "Father" M'Golrick, of this city. If every Protestant minister would be as faithful with his own people as these men are with theirs, and as zealous of securing the enforcement of temperance and Sunday laws, the millennium would be brought near. I know also of a very large Lutheran church in this city whose pastor's conversion to total abstinence, two years ago, has made throughout his entire congregation a general change of the New Year's wine to coffee.

The churches have this year been more generally blessed with "times of refreshing" than for many years before, and some of the revivals have been characterized by very marked divine influence. The roll of probationers in the Minnesota Conference is probably larger now than ever before. I know of no city anywhere in which so large a proportion of the prominent business men are church members as in Minneapolis. Its mayor is a faithful Baptist, and has done valuable work in executing the laws.

Vice of all kinds dies hard. The mayor of St. Paul, a Roman Catholic, I think, made a resolute effort to enforce the laws against gambling and prostitution; but was met by the determined opposition of "prominent

citizens," who insisted that such a course "would drive away business," that "we must take the world as it is," and that "when the country merchants come to town they want to have a good time." The liquor interest in this State is thoroughly organized and very powerful. It is credited with influence enough to control the Legislature and obstruct legislation; and eye-witnesses say that the recent reception to the governor and the Legislature, at the State House, was disgraced by the free flow of intoxicating liquors and by shameless drunkenness. There is a little alleviation of the feelings excited by such an event in the prompt and unsparing denunciation which good men have heaped upon it; and possibly the sentiments it evoked facilitated the entire exclusion of liquor and wine from a precisely similar public banquet subsequently given in Minneapolis.

Who would not rejoice in the opportunity of doing something to claim for Christ such an empire as this. Fill Minnesota with Methodist churches and earnest, consecrated Methodist preachers to bear their part with other evangelizing forces, and, as in Kansas and Iowa, the saloon power will move out.

A FEW EXAMPLES.

To the examples given of our work in the previous numbers of the MANUAL, we add these few in this:

OSBORNE, KANSAS. They asked a donation of $500, to aid in building our Plan No. 20, of size 28x50. We gave them $250, and loaned as much more, on conditions specified and complied with, and paid the amounts last June. A recent letter from the secretary of trustees says:

We wish to pay off our debt of $250 within the next 60 or 90 days, perhaps sooner. Dr. H. D. Fisher, of Topeka, Kan., dedicated our church August 16. We have subscriptions that are perfectly good, with which to pay it. But they were made with the understanding that they could stand 90 days if desired. Please let me know if you will take the amount and what the interest will be if paid either in 30, 60, or 90 days hence. I forgot to take down date of papers. We have the nicest church in town and are as happy as fleas in sheepskin. For us the Church Extension Society has been a grand affair.

We rejoice in this success, and are glad to have them return the loan before due so we can send it to help others. Too many get behind with paying loans.

CAWKER CITY, KANSAS. A donation of $500 was asked for the aid of this church, but we could give only half this amount and tendered a loan of the other half if it should be needed. With the donation paid in February last they built by our

Plan No. 29. The "Central Christian Advocate," of September 2, gives an account of the dedication:

The new church at Cawker City, North-west Kansas Conference, was dedicated Sunday, August 23, by Dr. H. D. Fisher, of Topeka, assisted by Rev. A. B. Conwell, pastor, Rev. F. D. Baker, of Clyde, Dr. Wilson, and the pastor of the Congregational Church at Cawker. Our Methodist society at Cawker had been worshiping in a very good frame church, located in the heart of the town, and was reasonably prosperous under the pastorate of Brother Conwell. In May, of 1884, the house was burned. The origin of the fire remains a mystery. Many believe it to have been the work of an incendiary, instigated by the whisky power; some think the fire was accidental. The burning of the church was felt to be a great loss to the society and community. The Church Extension Society made a donation of $250. The insurance on the building and furniture gave the trustees $750, and the people responded liberally by subscription, so that under the leadership of Brother Conwell, the pastor, with the assistance of Mr. Tucker, the society now has a much better, larger, and prettier church than before. It is of stone, 40x60, with transept. The ladies have furnished the platform with the finest brussels carpet and stained glass for the windows. The church, from foundation to finish of spire, is complete, and is a thing of beauty, being constructed after a plan furnished by the Church Extension Society. The remaining indebtedness was provided for on the occasion of dedication, several persons giving liberally after having paid largely before, while a few withheld that which they should have given. There is much rejoicing in hope of a revival.

We sent this church the donation in February last, and they now call for the loan for a short time until their subscriptions taken at the dedication shall be paid.

Edgar, Nebraska, is a good example of the development of a self-supporting church in a new country with such aid as our Board can give. In 1878 we loaned them $500 to aid in building a church. This they returned in good faith, though the church was incomplete, and in 1882 we gave them $200 to aid in finishing their church. We find the following concerning it, three years later, in the "Central Christian Advocate" of September 2:

On the arrival of the new pastor last October, the ladies of the church, organized into an industrial society, decided that a parsonage was needed, as there was no comfortable house in town to rent at that time, and went vigorously to work to secure the means for building. A subscription paper was circulated. The ladies also went to earning money in various ways, and before Christmas there was a good, comfortable house for the pastor's family. It has been built at a cost of $811; the upper story is

still unfinished. The presiding elder, Rev. John Gallagher, says that when completed it will be one of the best parsonages in the Conference. On January 7, 1885, the building committee turned the accounts over to the ladies with an indebtedness of $149 94; the society has paid off this debt and added $39 30 in improvements, besides having the house insured, and adding $50 improvements to the church. The Ladies' Society has furnished more than $300 toward the parsonage fund, and intends to keep right on at work until every thing is completed. The pastor, Rev. L. Laverty, has been the recipient of several generous donations, amounting in all to over $100.

When Bro. Laverty's time expires some other good preacher will be glad to live in that parsonage and preach in that church.

JOHNSTOWN, NEBRASKA, West Nebraska Mission. The following is a sample of many cases where prompt and energetic action secures the field and establishes a church for Methodism in a frontier town. In the latter part of 1884 the pastor wrote:

I came to this circuit last September. We have a membership of forty-six. We first held services in the depot, but now hold them in the post-office, which is too small, and very inconvenient. Our school building is a small house, one and a quarter miles from the town, and was built to accommodate the district, before there was any town here.

This is a new railroad town, built within the last year. It is growing very fast. There is a great future here for Methodism if we had some place in which to worship. We have purchased lots for church and parsonage, and have a subscription of $245 toward a church building. We expect to raise several hundred dollars more. We intend to apply to the Board of Church Extension for $250 gift and $250 loan. We have decided to build after plan No 1 B. We all feel that we must do something soon, or Methodism will lose its strength here. Almost every denomination is here represented, but the Methodists are six to one of any other denomination. We have a large Sunday-school. Some of the other denominations are looking up the field, and the first one that builds a church in this town will get all the outside financial support. If we can get $250 donation and $250 loan, we can put up a church and finish it, I think, without debt, excepting the loan. The people are willing to do all they can, but they cannot build without help. They are all poor, but have noble and liberal hearts. Send me catalogue of plans and information pertaining to building a church. I am a young man, without any experience in building churches.

Of course, on such a showing, we sent catalogue of plans and blank form of application. The application came in due form, and was granted, for a donation of $250 and a loan of $250. They secured plan No. 1 B, and have gone to work in the erection of the building, relying on our help, and will soon have it far enough advanced to receive the aid granted.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

DIRECTORY AND EXPLANATIONS.

CORPORATE NAME: The Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

OFFICE: 805 Broadway, N. Y., adjoining the offices of Book Agents, Editors, and Bishops.

Charter, Organization, etc.—See Tract No. 5, Society Series, which is furnished gratuitously to all applicants. See also Discipline, ¶ 262, §§ 5, 6, 7, also ¶ 558.

The Annual Meeting of the Board is held in New York in the month of November.

Officers—*President*, Bishop Harris; *Recording Secretary*, J. W. Lindsay; *Treasurer*, O. Hoyt; *Corresponding Secretary*, D. P. Kidder.

The Corresponding Secretary has charge of all the correspondence and executive business of the Board. His official address is 805 Broadway, New York.

The Treasurer, Hon. Oliver Hoyt, receives from the Corresponding Secretary and the several Book Agents all remittances, and holds all funds of the Board, subject to the approval of the Finance Committee.

N. B.—As the Treasurer's counting-house is in another part of the city, it is for his convenience to have the details of accounts kept at the office of the Corresponding Secretary.

The Available Funds of the Board are the proceeds, (1) of the General Educational Fund of the Church; (2) of the Children's Fund, both supplemented by annual collections made in the churches, and specially by those of Children's Day; also by special donations.

The Disbursements are made in loans to candidates for the ministry or missionary work, to aid them in securing a thorough education. Preference is always given to grown-up Sunday-school scholars, and also to Conferences that send their educational collections to the Board.

To secure Loans application must be made in a form prescribed by the Board, and furnished to all who desire it. The demand for loans from worthy applicants is at this time very great and very urgent. In nearly all parts of the country there are promising youths of both sexes anxious to devote their lives to Christian work, but who are unable to secure the advantages of our schools without a little help. Help furnished, in the form of loans, encourages their self-respect, stimulates their efforts, enables them to accomplish their object, and, as a rule, returns in due time to aid others. Hence the claims of the Board for co-operation on the part of those who desire to do good are very great.

The Plan of the Church is to give all, even the children of the Sunday-school, an opportunity to co-operate in promoting and securing a higher education. In this manner, the attention of the young is roused to their own responsibilities and privileges, and many are started in a career of self-development who otherwise would not think a thorough education possible. Nine tenths of all who are now receiving aid from the funds of the Board are grown-up Sunday-school scholars. The children of the present day and of the future will receive similar aid in their turn.

Donations and Legacies are solicited for these objects. Persons making devises of real estate to the Board by will are requested to observe the following form:

I give and devise to "The Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church," incorporated by the Legislature of the State of New York, the following lands and premises, that is to say:..... To have and to hold the same, with the appurtenances thereof, to the said Board, its successors and assigns forever.

Bequests of money should be appropriately varied.

Persons making Bequests or Devises to the Board, or knowing that they have been made, are requested to notify the Corresponding Secretary, at No. 805 Broadway, New York, and, if practicable, to inclose a copy of the clause in the will, that the wishes of the testator may be fully known.

ADDITIONAL REPORTS OF CHILDREN'S DAY.

NORTH DIGHTON, MASS.

We observed Children's Day, and the verdict of all was that they were more than ever attached to it and convinced of its vital importance to the Church. The collection in this church heretofore has been appropriated to the school, but this year our Sunday-school Board voted to adopt the disciplinary plan, and the collection taken in the Sunday-school is, therefore, forwarded to you. The church was completely filled with a very appreciative audience. The fresh, bright, and cheerful singing of the little ones rendered the canary a superfluous article. Last year's "Manual of Hints and Helps" proved to be very serviceable again. The suggestion of Dr. G. R. Palmer, in the April Church MANUAL, that a brief memorial service for the deceased members of the Sunday-school be included in the programme, was adopted with very satisfactory results. Five members of the school—one a teacher—had died during the year. As the death-roll was called by the secretary, some member of the class to which the deceased belonged brought forward a floral piece, and these bouquets were arranged in a large floral crown. The presence of a lodge of Odd-fellows, in mourning for one of their members formerly belonging to the Sunday-school, added interest to this service. The pastor, in his address, alluded to the deceased members of the school, but so as not to make the day gloomy, keeping ever in mind the true design of Children's Day.

FRANK P. PARKIN.

WEST HAVEN, CONN.

Our school was eminently successful in the observance of Children's Day. We divided your programme, using a portion for the morning and the remainder for the evening. Addresses on Christian Education completed the morning programme, and the recitations by the children of the school and the infant department the evening programme. All the collections of the day will go to the Educational Fund, making our amount fifty per cent. more than it was last year. Praise the Lord for the day!

THOMAS E. GILBERT.

VOLANT, PA.

We observed Children's Day on Volant Charge at the various appointments. All the schools were perfectly delighted. The houses were beautifully arranged with flowers. The responsive reading was grand, and the music was all that need be desired. We took the public Educational collection at the same time, and divided the amount as directed.

JOHN ECKELS.

HAMPDEN, BALTIMORE CO., MD.

My idea is, that these services will do a great amount of good in training our young for usefulness in the Church. I should have the service were the collection to amount to nothing. Have the service and let the children see they are recognized as an organic part of our great army,

and thus fire their young hearts and minds with the fact that the Church has done heroic work, is now doing great things for the Lord and society, and has before it great opportunities. Do this, and the money will come in the future. I try to remember that these boys will soon be men, and through these and kindred agencies I believe we are training a generation that will give to the Lord's cause as the present cannot be expected to do. Suffice it to say, we had a good day in our church. L. L. BROWN.

BEAUFORT, S. C.

Please find inclosed ($10 03), this being the amount raised on Children's Day. We promised to do better this year than we did last, so you see we have kept our promise. Now we shall do better next year. Your reports sent out on Education are the very things to increase our Children's Day collection. I did not know the Church was doing so much for education until I received your report. We had three exercises during the day, and at each speeches were made on Education. They took well among the people. If each pastor will do his whole duty, the time is not far distant when we shall raise more money on Children's Day than on any other set apart by the Church for benevolent collections.

L. S. BLAKENY.

SALLIS, MISS.

Our Children's Day was quite a success. We gave the whole day to the children, and all seemed to enjoy it greatly. It was the greatest time the children ever witnessed in the Barlow Methodist Episcopal Church. We find that Children's Day is very useful and enjoyable for old and young, and the children say they will be glad to see the next Children's Day. W. H. SCOTT.

PATTERSON, TEXAS, SAN FELIPE P. O.

Whereas the whole country here was overflowed, we were not permitted to have Children's Day on the second Sunday in June, so we held it June 28, and enjoyed a very good time, but not such a time as I had anticipated. On account of the high water the people were compelled to abandon their homes and go to the high lands. But I am glad to say that we were successful in raising $4 for the Children's Fund. I am glad also to say we were able to use the programme for Children's Day and to sing the songs. F. GILMORE.

CLEVELAND, TENN.

This service grows more intensely interesting each year as our people see some of the results. The young people and children are especially pleased with the plan. Our services were very interesting and well attended. At the evening service the aisles and vestibule even were crowded, while one hundred and fifty or two hundred people were turned away at the door, not being able to get standing room. The collection, which I herewith send, is made up largely from the little mites the children have been saving for this purpose. This is the first year this day has

been celebrated at this place, but our own people are so highly pleased with the service that I predict it will be observed with more enthusiasm and better results than this has been. J. D. DROKE.

NINTH ST. M. E. CHURCH, COVINGTON, KY.

Our Children's Day service was both pleasant and profitable. The programme was carried out, and both parents and pupils took a deep interest. The decorations were very tasteful. The day was fine and the collection good. E. W. S. HAMMOND.

LOGANSPORT, IND.

We again had a grand time on Children's Day. The beauty of the church on Sabbath was simply beyond my power to describe. Last year I had great difficulty in getting enough persons to take an interest in the work to get the church properly decorated (it was their first). This year the children have been asking for the last four months when the day would come, and when we met to decorate I found so many there that we were absolutely in each other's way—not only of the children, but young men and women, and gray-haired fathers and mothers. It is for us pre-eminently *the* day of all the year. We used the exercises prepared by the Board, with a short sermon by myself to the children in the morning, and gave a miscellaneous concert in the evening. We all unite in saying, "God bless the Board of Education, and long live the celebration of Children's Day!"

L. J. NAFTZGER.

VIOLA, ILL.

Our Children's Day on this the New Windsor Charge was a grand success, with a slight advance in collections over last year. Our churches were handsomely decorated with appropriate mottoes, etc. "Educated for Eternity," "Second Century of Methodism," "Children's Day," were among the mottoes used. The children had appropriate recitations from the "Manual" and good singing. The occasion is becoming a feature in Methodism well calculated to inspire the young and also the old.

W. G. MILLER.

EAST PAW PAW, ILL.

We had quite a pleasant time at both East and South Paw Paw, and the collection, I think, is reasonable for a weak charge. I have no doubt the people will take hold of this interesting and helpful enterprise of the Church more earnestly next year even than they did this. I was impressed very much with a little incident that occurred at South Paw Paw. There is living in that community a man by the name of Daniel Pine, between ninety-eight and ninety-nine years of age, whom I think about the most complete incarnation of Christian doctrines and principles that it has ever been my good fortune to meet. He is almost always in my congregation on the Sabbath when the weather will permit, and his cheerful, happy face is quite an inspiration, as he sits in his chair inside the altar-rail, facing me. He attended our Children's Day exercises for the first time in his

life, and was quite absorbed with it all. In one of the exercises some little girls, in closing their piece, kneeled at the altar, inside, and repeated together a verse written as a prayer. "Father Pine," who was standing near them, kneeled directly in front and very near them. This, of course, was not in the programme, which made it only more impressive. I would like a picture of that scene to keep and refer to. The time, place, and surroundings, the extremes of age, the blessed, humble old man, the innocent children, and the prayer, altogether impressed me very much.

J. L. BACKUS.

COLDWATER, MICH.

Our Children's Day was a decided success. By the aid of hints from your "Manual" we prepared our own programme. I thank God for Children's Day in our Church! One thing which added to the interest and pleasure was the presence and addresses of Gen. C. B. Fisk and wife. This part of the attractions of our day was what no other Sunday-school enjoyed on Children's Day, June 14, 1885. The financial success of the day you will find in draft inclosed to the amount of $24. D. F. BARNES.

HOWELL, MICH.

We had a very enjoyable and profitable Children's Day service. It is a grand good custom, and is looked forward to with great anticipation by the scholars of our school. Inclosed find programme. FRANK E. DURFEE.

SUPERIOR, WIS.

This was the first Children's Day service ever held in this place. All appeared to enjoy it very much. It was difficult to tell who enjoyed it most, the children or grown people. I think all will look forward to such another service with pleasure. The whole day was devoted to services appropriate for the children. JOHN HAW.

GLENCOE, MINN.

Our Children's Day was a great success. Followed programme closely here morning and evening, and at Norwood in the afternoon. Both churches finely decorated.

A PECULIAR INCIDENT.

The purse I send herewith was given by Hon. A. W. Tiffany and wife, of Norwood, and is just as it was left thirteen years ago by an idolized child accidentally shot by his older brother. It means a great deal.

J. W. MARTIN.

P. S.—It may be interesting to state that the little purse given on Children's Day was taken by an old soldier of the Union Army from the person of a fallen Confederate. The soldier gave it to little Lee Tiffany, who kept in it his gatherings as sent you.

REMARKS.—The purse above referred to will be held in this office as a Children's Day curiosity until purchased by some one who appreciates peculiar relics, the price to be added to the Children's Fund.

WINONA, MINN.

The "Red Letter" and other preparations for Children's Day created much interest in the object and drew throngs of people. Your programme was rendered in full in the evening, and the children never sang so well. Money being scarce, our collection could not be large; but it was given very cheerfully, a heart-offering. S. T. HORNER.

MANLEY, NEB.

I send you our Children's Day collection, $10. It was our first Children's Day, but will not be the last. The Taylor-Manley work is a new one, and we are weak in numbers, only seven full members. Our Sunday-school numbers fifty; average, thirty-five. We are building a $2,000 church, and are much embarrassed for the lack of means; yet hoping our mite may aid in this good work, we send prayers for God's blessing upon it. E. B. CRIPPEN.

HUNTINGDALE, HENRY CO., MO.

This year is the first that Children's Day has been observed on this charge. The result is very gratifying. All that were present join in saying that it was a day well spent. It has given our Sunday-school new life. I. M. GALBRAITH.

WALNUT, KAN.

Walnut Circuit, South Kansas Conference, again rolls up a handsome sum for the Children's Fund. This appointment is composed of three societies, making a circuit in the form of a triangle, and we held our first service at Helper Charge on the morning of June 14, using the programme. In the afternoon of the same date we held exercises at Walnut City, the head of the circuit. We had a very interesting and highly appreciated exercise and a large attendance. At this place last year we had considerable trouble to get all concerned to take part, but this year all participated, and resulted in increased attendance and increased donations. On the afternoon of June 21 we held our Children's Day services at Porterville, at which place we had the largest gathering of any place on the circuit, and many, who before had little or no interest in the Children's Fund, began to inquire in regard to it and say, "Perhaps my child may need the help of this fund some day." Our collections resulted as follows: Hepler, $11 90; Walnut, $12 40; Porterville, $12 40; total, $36 70. M. E. GODDARD.

SALIDA, COL.

Children's Day was a real success with us. Your excellent programme gave universal satisfaction. The observance of the day, for the first time in this place, has created a new impulse in the work, and hereafter it will be appropriately observed. J. F. HARRIS.

LOMPOC, CAL.

The day is a favorite one with the people of Lompoc and valley. Lompoc is a temperance colony, in which no saloon can stand. Last year I reported our collection to Conference, and hence it was not credited by you to our station. F. S. WOODCOCK.

ACTION OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCES.

Baltimore.

The report of the Board of Education increases our interest in its valuable work. System and liberality and definite aims and the widespread observance of Children's Day open a great future to this department of Church work. The diligent Secretary, Dr. Kidder, keeps the Church well informed of his schemes, and urged incessantly to its duty.

We recommend the universal observance of Children's Day, inexpensively for decorations, and uniformly for contributions to the Board of Education.

Wilmington.

The Committee on Education beg leave respectfully to report as follows:

Upon the threshold of her second century, the Methodist Episcopal Church consecrates herself anew and distinctly to the cause of liberal Christian culture. Her first hundred years, while recording evangelical triumphs that have rendered our Church the most numerous body in the Protestant commonwealth, have also been marked by distinguished educational achievements. These results began in the creation of a few struggling schools. They were completed in the establishment of no less than one hundred and forty-one institutions of learning of various grades, and in the organization of the Board of Education, by which a connectional endowment is attempted, that, supplementing the personal benefactions of the Church to this object, provides a wise and comprehensive system of educational activity for the years to come. Upon this carefully laid foundation the recent General Conference builded bravely and well, its legislation and suggestion on the subject comprehending three important measures. These are, first, that the theological seminaries are definitely recognized in the code of the Church, and are to exist hereafter "for the benefit of the whole Church," and not as mere local institutions; secondly, that Children's Day is to be observed as the grand Educational Day of the Church, upon which the benefactions of the denomination to this cause are to be concentrated; and, thirdly, that candidates for the ministry are counseled to prepare for their work in the schools, before, and not after, their entrance upon it. This action is intended to harmonize and extend our educational system, and to develop the highest power of our future ministry.

Philadelphia.

The Board of Education is doing a noble work. It has within the last ten years rendered assistance to more than one thousand students, in eighty-four institutions of the Church. Of this number more than two hundred are active members of sixty Annual Conferences, and thirty are missionaries in foreign lands. We earnestly recommend the general observance of Children's Day.

NEW JERSEY.

Whereas, The demand upon our BOARD OF EDUCATION and its auxiliaries are greater than their resources, being compelled thereby to refuse many worthy applications for aid; and,

Whereas, There is an increasing demand for a thoroughly educated and cultured ministry; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That we recognize the BOARD OF EDUCATION of our Church and its auxiliaries as among its most important agencies, and second to none in its claims upon our people for support.

2. That we earnestly recommend to those contemplating the ministry to secure a thorough collegiate education or its equivalent, if possible, before applying for admission to our Conference.

3. That we recognize the importance of making special efforts to increase the collections of CHILDREN'S DAY, since by a change in the appropriation of its funds they will now be immediately applied to the education of those needing aid.

NEWARK.

Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

We find that in ten years over one thousand students have been aided in obtaining an education, in eighty-four different institutions of the Church, to the amount of over $96,000. "Of these, seventy-four were ladies. Of the male students aided, more than two hundred have entered at least sixty Annual Conferences as itinerant ministers." These figures are of themselves sufficient to call for sincere gratitude to God, and for our increased confidence in and liberality toward the Board that has thus efficiently and economically administered these trusts.

We rejoice in the large measure of success that attended the celebration of CHILDREN'S DAY, 1884, both in the increased interest in the cause of Christian education manifested, and in the large increase in the amount of the contributions.

We recommend to all our churches and Sunday-schools the celebration of CHILDREN'S DAY, 1885, and call attention to the detailed programme therefor prepared by the Secretary of the Board, the Rev. Dr. D. P. Kidder. The moneys contributed on that occasion ought to be sacredly consecrated and applied to the cause of Christian education, according to paragraph 262 of the Discipline, nor diverted into local or other channels.

NEW YORK.

We are glad to know that the observance of CHILDREN'S DAY is growing among us, and has given an inspiration to the whole Church in the work of Christian education. We note the fact of a change in the charter of the BOARD OF EDUCATION, by virtue of which funds now given may go *directly* to the help of needy students. The medals of Bishops Asbury and Simpson will be offered for another year, as an inducement to increase the collections of CHILDREN'S DAY. We would also emphasize the law

of the Church, that these collections should not be diverted into other channels and for other purposes.

New England.

The Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church, under the efficient management of its Secretary, Dr. Kidder, has pushed its way into the sympathies of the Church, and is meeting with the hearty support its worth merits. During the ten years in which it has been disbursing funds it has aided 142 students in our Church schools in New England, to the amount of $16,502. During the current school year it has aided, and purposes to aid, in the same schools, 138 students, to the amount of $2,775. Its aggregate of collections in 1884 from the six New England Conferences was $2,926.

Resolved, That we highly appreciate the new life and efficiency which the present Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Education has infused into the work committed to him; and that we will cheerfully co-operate with him in making Children's Day, and the Sunday-school offering to the Children's Fund, what they should be.

New England Southern.

In accordance with the provisions of the Discipline, let Children's Day be observed and a collection be taken in the Sunday-schools in aid of the Sunday-school Fund of the Board of Education. It shall also be the duty of every pastor to take a public collection, which collection, whether taken on Children's Day or at another time, shall be paid to the New England Educational Society.

East Maine.

Board of Education.

The "Children's Fund" has worthily become an established institution in the hearts of our people. The children are made contributors to securing their own education, and show their appreciation of the privilege by making Children's Day the happy day of all the year. The past year was one of great interest in this department of our Church work. The collections from many hundreds of churches show a marked advance on previous years. Handsome results will follow.

We recommend that all the preachers of our Conference secure and circulate in their congregations "The Red Letter of 1885," in accordance with the liberal provisions made by the Board of Education through its Secretary at New York.

If our people, including the children, are educated to see the great advantages to be derived from a large educational fund from which worthy students belonging to our Church may draw, there need be no trouble in swelling the "Children's Fund" into the millions. It will be the fountain of perennial blessings to our Church.

The Board of Education is ready to receive applications for help

from deserving students of Eastern Maine. Let us become willing sharers in giving and receiving.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

We especially commend the increasing interest in CHILDREN'S DAY, and earnestly request our people to make it a power for good by co-operating heartily with the enthusiastic Secretary of the BOARD OF EDUCATION. We indorse the action of the General Conference in giving the Secretary the power to spend the money raised on CHILDREN'S DAY immediately, if needed, rather than funding it for the uncertain interests of posterity.

We rejoice in the reviving interest in the subject of Christian education, and strenuously urge our ministers to observe the injunction of the Discipline to preach every year on this subject.

VERMONT.

We recommend the observance of CHILDREN'S DAY in all our charges, and that a collection be taken for educational purposes, and not for other objects on that day, and that the exercises be planned and conducted with the higher aim of promoting the intellectual and the spiritual welfare of our children and youth.

TROY.

Children's Day.

Resolved, 1. That we highly approve the suggestion of the last General Conference, that hereafter CHILDREN'S DAY should be made a grand educational day for the whole Church, in which not only in the Sunday-schools, but in all our congregations, a public collection should be taken in aid of the work of education, the joint proceeds to be divided between our Conference Educational Society and the Children's Fund of the Board of Education. (See Discipline, ¶ 262, §§ 5–7.)

2. That all pastors are requested to make the proper division of said joint collections, and forward promptly to each society its share of the funds so collected, reporting to the next Conference the several receipts as vouchers for these collections."

LEXINGTON.

We commend the observance of CHILDREN'S DAY; also the presentation of the objects of CHILDREN'S DAY to the people in all our churches.

KANSAS.

Your Committee on Education beg leave to report that in their judgment there is no interest of the Church which should be more carefully guarded and zealously advanced than that of Christian education.

The attention of the Conference is called to the action of the late General Conference, suggesting that hereafter CHILDREN'S DAY be made a grand educational day, in which, not only in the Sunday-school, but in the

congregation, a public collection be taken in furtherance of the work of education. Adhering to this suggestion will no doubt do much toward preserving the beautiful institution of CHILDREN'S DAY to the Church, and protect its offerings from being diverted from the original design and legitimate channel.

NORTH-WEST IOWA.

We are much pleased with the great popularity and utility of the observance of CHILDREN'S DAY in all parts of the Church. We are also well pleased with the disbursements of this fund by the general Secretary, and recommend that in every society, both in circuits and stations, this day be suitably observed, and the collections be forwarded to Dr. Kidder, except in case it be deemed advisable to take the public educational collections on CHILDREN'S DAY, when the collections shall be divided, and one half sent to the parent Board, and the other half forwarded to the president of Cornell College, for the benefit of indigent and worthy students, who shall attend that school from within the bounds of our Conference. And the regular educational collection, and all educational funds now in possession of the Conference, shall be so forwarded to the president of Cornell College for the purpose named, and the faculty of Cornell shall be expected to report annually to the Conference Board of Education as to the disposition of such funds.

CHILDREN'S DAY IN FOREIGN LANDS.

Among the most remarkable facts connected with the Children's Day movement are the interest and zeal with which it is entered into in foreign countries far remote from each other—indeed, wherever our Church has established a foothold. News has reached us that Children's Day was enthusiastically observed in India, in Japan, in Liberia, in Mexico, in Germany and Switzerland, and that it has been formally adopted by the Conferences of Sweden and Norway.

The urgency of applications for educational aid in behalf of all those countries is very great. Desiring to make liberal responses to such applications, we can do so all the more freely in proportion to the efforts made on the spot for the same object. Hence whatever is raised in any foreign country is appropriated for local use whenever duly reported to this Board for credit.

SPECIAL OFFER OF CENTENARY HISTORIC MEDALS,

For Presents or Rewards.

To close out a limited surplus of the Centenary Historic Medals of the Methodist Episcopal Church, it has been decided to offer them for the above object in lots of not less than twenty at twenty-five cents each.

The Board of Education has never consented, and does not now consent, to the retail of these medals at any less price than one dollar each. In justice to the thousands who secured them on the original terms, neither their price nor their value must be depreciated. Hence, every one to whom a medal may come through the above offer, should consider it worth the full sum of one dollar financially, and as much more in a moral or historic point of view as may be suggested by the generosity of its presentation. In this idea, and for other reasons, it is thought that some individuals and Sunday-schools may see the great advantage of availing themselves of this closing opportunity to secure for children and others not yet supplied, this valuable memento and souvenir of an important epoch in the history of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Although early, it is not too soon to provide in this way for coming Christmas, New Year, and other festivals.

The present offer will not be continued beyond the disposal of the surplus referred to. Medals in smaller quantities will only be sent as heretofore for one dollar each postpaid, to any address. All orders must be sent to the

Educational Secretary,

805 Broadway, New York.